

### **ELECTION/RESTRICTION**

Applicant's election of Invention I, Claims 1 to 10, in the reply filed on 29 August 2007, is acknowledged. Because Applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Claims 11 to 13 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 29 August 2007.

### **EX PARTE QUAYLE**

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

#### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to because Figures 1 and 2 do not have reference numerals, and Figure 2 is not described at all in the Specification. It is conventional for figures to include reference numerals with corresponding numerals in the Specification. However, Figures 1 and 2 do not include reference numerals. Moreover, Figure 2 is not mentioned at all in the Detailed Description of the Invention. Applicant either needs to provide a description of Figure 2 in the Detailed Description of the Invention, or to cancel Figure 2.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office Action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, Applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office Action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The Specification should be amended to contain reference numerals corresponding to reference numerals of Figures 1 and 2. It is conventional for drawings to include reference numerals, and for the Specification to have corresponding reference numerals to facilitate understanding of the invention. Moreover, Figure 2 is not described at all in the Detailed Description of the Invention. Applicant needs to

amend the Detailed Description of the Invention, without introducing new matter, so as to reference and describe Figure 2. Alternatively, Applicant may cancel Figure 2, and amend the Specification to delete reference to Figure 2 in the Brief Description of the Figures.

Appropriate correction is required.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

#### **ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

Claims 1 to 10 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not disclose or reasonably suggest simulating personalities with graphs having overlapping portions and flags at nodes to associate a node to a subset of personalities. Generally, it is known to simulate a plurality of personalities for behaviors in a conversational system. Specifically, *Kleindienst et al.* is the closest prior art of record, disclosing a personality generator that provides a plurality of attributes for determining a behavior of the conversational system. (Abstract)  
Attributes affecting a behavior of the conversational system include language,

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vocabulary, and language models of a speech recognition engine, and characteristics of a natural language understanding (NLU) model. (Column 3, Lines 14 to 31) However, *Kleindienst et al.* omits representing the personalities as a graph, representing words as nodes of the graph, and using flags at each node to associate a node to a subset of the personalities. While it is known to represent words in a graph for language models and natural language understanding models, the prior art of record does not disclose or reasonably suggest using flags at nodes to associate a subset of personalities from overlapping portions of the graph. Applicant's Specification, Page 3, Lines 13 to 18, states an advantage of efficiently managing a plurality of chat robots at once without overloading a computer by multitasking.

### **CONCLUSION**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARTIN LERNER whose telephone number is (571)272-7608. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday to Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Martin Lerner/  
Primary Examiner  
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June 5, 2008